

EGRM-12/2021/INF.5

Room document for Expert Group on
Resource Management, 12th Session
26-30 April 2021

Report of the EGRM Technical Advisory
Group

TAG Report

Oct 2020 – April 2021



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WEEK 2021

ENABLING SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



UNECE

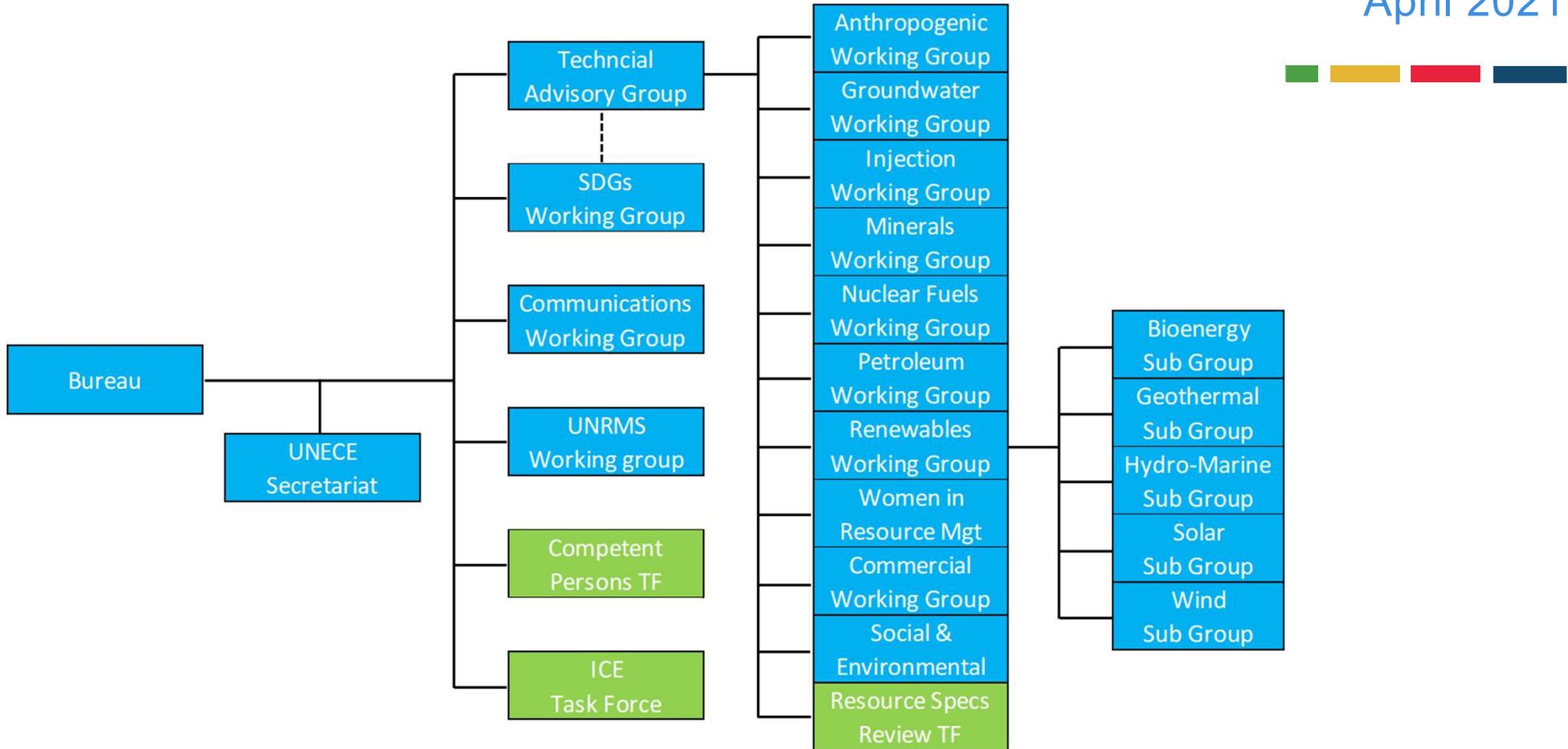
Outline



- TAG and WGs Organisation and Scope
- Overview of activities & achievements since EGRM-11
- UNFC Update Task Force recommendations
- Status of UNFC

Bureau Structure

April 2021



TAG Membership

April 2021



- Mr Alistair Jones Chair
- Mr Ulrich Kral Anthropogenic Working Group
- Mr Sigurd Heiberg Commercial Working Group
- Mr Kevin Parks Groundwater Working Group
- Ms Karin Ask Injection Working Group
- Mr Johann Gotsis Minerals Working Group
- Mr King Lee Nuclear Fuel Working Group
- Mr Satinder Purewal Petroleum Working Group
- Mr Jeremy Webb Renewables Working Group
- Mr Julian Hilton SDG Working Group (reports directly to Bureau)
- Mr Claudio Virues* Social & Environmental Working Group (David Elliott to 23/9/20)
- Ms Maria Capello & Ms Cristina Robinson Women in Resource Management

* Claudio Virues and Jim Jenkins co-chair the S&E WG, but Claudio represents the WG on TAG

Observers

- Mr David MacDonald (EGRM Chair), Ms Charlotte Griffiths (UNECE), Mr Hari Tulsidas (UNECE)

All (current and retired) are thanked for their dedicated leadership of Working Groups and for their wise and constructive guidance as members TAG

TAG Role

Terms of Reference



“The main responsibility of the TAG is to review and validate documents proposed by the Working Groups. It is also responsible for coordination and support of the commodity Working Groups.”

- Review Working Group goals, objectives and plans
- Maintain awareness of Working Group progress, opportunities & issues. Keep Bureau informed
- Facilitate support across Working Groups
- Ensure appropriate and timely review of sectoral WG documents
- Manage requests for assistance or advice

Document Reviews

- Undertaken by appropriate experts drawn from the Working Groups and other experts, as required

Working Group Role

generic description – priorities will differ between Working Groups



UNECE

- Develop and maintain sector/resource specifications, guidelines and best practice documents
- Provide advice on interpreting, applying and/or mapping to UNFC
- Assist in stakeholder engagement for the application of UNFC
- Assist stakeholders to develop and maintain bridging documents
- Work with stakeholders to develop case studies
- Assist with reviews of documents, and provide expert advice

Generic description – priorities will differ between Working Groups

Working Groups are volunteer so capacity is limited

TAG WG activities & achievements

Oct 2020 – April 2021

UNFC Specifications & Bridging Documents
Groundwater Specs - draft
Minerals Specs - draft
Nuclear Specs - draft
Petroleum Specs - draft
UNFC Update Recommendations
Common glossary
Anthropogenic Specs update
Geothermal Specs update
CRIRSCO/UNFC bridging update
PRMS/UNFC bridging update
Chinese Minerals and Petroleum bridging updates

Guidelines and Applications
Guidance for Social and Environmental Considerations for UNFC
UNFC applied to Commercial Assessments – Introductory Guidance
UNFC applied to commercial assessments- Update & achievements
Application of UNFC to Renewable Energy
Advancing Women in Resource Management: Activity Report 2021
Azerbaijan Petroleum Case Study
Coalbed Methane work
Feedback to consultation by Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance on "Alliance 2025 Target Setting Protocol"
Feedback to IFRS Foundation Consultation Paper on Sustainability Reporting
Feedback to consultation by FSB's Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures

Webinars and Workshops
How UNFC can help channel investments into energy and resource projects for sustainable development
UNFC Europe: Ensuring sustainable raw material management to support the European Green Deal
Phosphates for sustainable development: Fertilisers and phosphogypsum in the circular economy
Women in Mining: Global Perspective
Training Workshop on Guidelines and best practices for MSMEs
Training workshop Women entrepreneurship in natural resource management

COMPLETED
IN PROGRESS

Task Force on UNFC Resource Specifications

Purpose, Membership and Approach



- Purpose

- To review UNFC resource specifications and provide recommendations on consistency, clarity and ease of use, updating for UNFC (2019) and on a common glossary. This will provide input to the Working Groups in updating resource specifications, and to TAG reviewers when reviewing the updates

- Membership

- all TAG WGs were invited to be represented
- 13 members (see title slide) from most of the WGs

- Approach

- Regular TF calls to review progress, discuss issues and agree plan. The Secretariat (Charlotte Griffiths and Hari Tulsidas) joined many of the calls
- The published and draft resource-specific specifications, available up to October 2020, were reviewed for consistency with UNFC (2019), clarity and ease of use, and considered in learning lessons and making recommendations
- Sub-teams worked on different aspects i) Scope, Contents and Structure, ii) EFG Axis, iii) Glossary and Abbreviations
- The draft report was sent to TAG WGs for comment
- The Task Force reviewed, discussed and agreed the I report

How Work of 3 Sub-teams Fits Together



Scope, Contents and Structure Sub-team

- Recommend the appropriate scope, similar content and structure of the resource-specific specifications and where flexibility or additional resource-specific-content may be appropriate.

UNFC (2019) and Guidance Documents



EFG Axis Sub-team

- Identify inconsistencies between UNFC 2019 and resource specifications in terms of supporting explanations and guidance for E, F and G categories. Recommend common terminology, content, level of detail and format, and where flexibility or additional resource-specific content may be appropriate.

Resource-specific Specifications



Definitions and Guidance Sub-team

- Propose which concepts and terms should be defined in a common glossary and which in resource-specific texts and glossaries. Propose on what aspects guidance should be provided in the resource-specific specifications. Recommend common definitions, guidance

Recommendation to Harmonize UNFC docs



Incremental approach to achieve consistency and clarity

- common terminology; harmonized scope, contents & structure; EFG definitions

Now

v1.0



Medium-term

v2.0 – limited harmonization,
incremental update of
current resource-specific
specifications



Long-term

v3.0 – full harmonization and
simplification, significant
revision of all UNFC
documents



Summary of Recommendations



UNECE

Resource Specifications

- Version v2.0 – limited harmonization, incremental update of current resource-specific specifications
 - **UNFC (2019) and guidance documents:** no change from current versions
 - **Terminology:** Develop and adopt common glossary. Update terminology, axis names, class and sub-class names to be consistent with UNFC (2019). (A draft Glossary is proposed in the report.)
 - **Scope, contents structure:** reorganize current contents - harmonized titles, common contents page + optional sub-headings in each resource-specific specification. Reorganize content of current resource-specific specifications, but fit into new common structure. Reference/add any missing common content.
 - **EFG definitions:** Align with 2019 UNFC. Ensure that they are still fit for purpose and amend if necessary. Follow examples of good practice in current documents. Harmonize across resources

Resource Specifications

- Version v3.0 – full harmonization and simplification, significant revision of all UNFC documents
 - **UNFC (2019) and guidance documents:** Revise - incorporate all common material into updated UNFC (2019). If EFG decision trees are deemed useful, they can be at the UNFC guidance level.
 - **Terminology:** Same as v2.0. Develop and adopt common glossary. Update terminology, axis names, class and sub-class names to be consistent with UNFC (2019).
 - **Scope, contents structure:** More significant revision than v2.0. Revise current contents to have common contents pages and only include functional requirements. Add case studies or generic examples?
 - **EFG definitions:** More significant revision than v2.0. Adopt a similar level (quality and format) of additional explanation for EFG categories for each resource-specific specification. Could we provide universal E axis guidance? Eliminate repetition of EFG text already contained in UNFC and focus specifications on sector specific guidance.

Benefits, Limitations/Costs of Updates



UNECE

Version v2.0 – limited harmonization, incremental update of current resource-specific specifications, no changes to UNFC (2019)

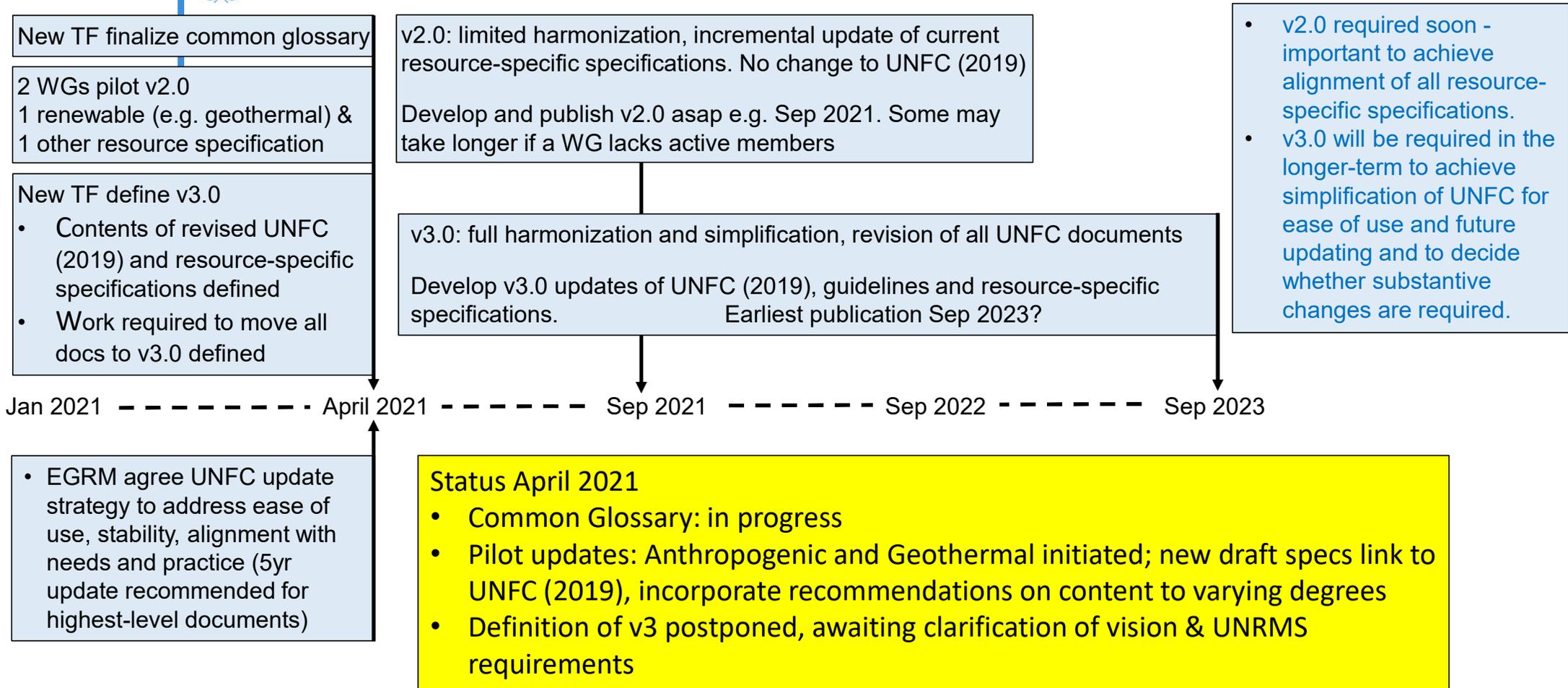
- Achieves consistency of terminology with UNFC (2019); some harmonization
- Easy and rapid to implement: no change to UNFC (2019), each resource-specific specification can be updated and published when ready, primary changes are terminology and reorganisation
- Opportunity to make incremental improvements to resource-specific specifications e.g. adopt good practice from other documents, no longer require Generic Renewable Specifications
- Harmonization is limited, UNFC documents remain quite complex to use, current weaknesses of UNFC (2019) not addressed. Some hesitant to adopt because of these weaknesses.

Version v3.0 – full harmonization and simplification, significant revision of all UNFC documents

- Achieves much greater level of harmonization, simplification and ease of use of UNFC and resource-specific specifications. Makes future updates easier.
- Requires more work and more coordination between WGs: agreeing significant changes to organise content between documents and to achieve as much consistency as possible
- Opportunity to make substantive updates to correct current weaknesses in UNFC (2019), and align with requirements of UNRMS which may emerge. UNFC (2019) was a light touch update of UNFC (2009) which focussed on updating terminology. The possibility of a future substantive update was recognised at the time.
- Possible substantive updates: allow additional project metrics, distinguish between projects and assets, move “commitment” to E axis from F1.2, add granularity to E2, address concerns that E3.1 is not a maturity sub-category, remove G4 and use G1/2/3 as F3 identifies Prospective Projects, add F4.4 for notional/undefined projects using existing technologies, add information on barriers, address implications of the change in view of quantities from “in-place” in UNFC (2009) to “not produced” in UNFC (2019).
- Making substantive updates may be disruptive to users and undermine adoption.

Recommended Next Steps for Implementation

Develop v2.0 then v3.0, Define Update Strategy



UNFC

April 2021

UNFC 2009 Generic Specifications		Specifications		Bridging	Cases Stud/ Pilots
		Limited Glossary			
Anthropogenic		✓			✓
Groundwater					
Injection		✓			
Minerals		via CRIRSCO	CRIRSCO, CCMR-1999		✓
Nuclear Fuels			NEA/IAEA Red Book		✓
Petroleum		via PRMS	PRMS, RF2013, CCPR-2004		✓
Renewables	Bioenergy	✓			✓
	Geothermal	✓			✓
	Hydro-Marine				
	Solar	✓			
	Wind	✓			✓
Guidance	Competent Persons, Evaluator Qualifications, Definition of a Project, Social & Environmental Considerations, Uranium & Thorium				

- More universal terminology
- Groundwater, Minerals, Nuclear, Petroleum drafts published
- Bridging doc updates progressing
- Common Glossary and updated specifications in progress
- Guidance developed
- Communication and promotion: successful webinars, interactions with other standards-setting SDG initiatives

UNFC 2019 Generic Specifications		Specifications		Bridging	Cases Stud/ Pilots
		Common Glossary - in progress			
Anthropogenic		update in progress			
Groundwater		draft published			
Injection					
Minerals		draft published	Updates: CRIRSCO draft, CCMR-1999 draft		
Nuclear Fuels		draft published			
Petroleum		draft published	updates: CCPR-2004 draft, PRMS initiated		
Renewables	Bioenergy				
	Geothermal	update in progress			
	Hydro-Marine				
	Solar				
	Wind				
Guidance	Application to Renewable Energy, Commercial Assessments, Social & Environmental Considerations, Competent Persons (in progress)				

Thank you!

Alistair Jones
TAG Chair

UNECE

Date 27 | 04 | 2021, Geneva



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WEEK 2021

ENABLING SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



UNECE